



# Wisconsin Crop Progress & Condition



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Cooperating with Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

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For the week ending October 14, 2018  
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## More Rain, Widespread Frost

There were 1.5 days suitable for fieldwork for the week ending October 14, 2018, according to the USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Temperatures again started off the week normal to above normal, with widespread rain driving already high soil moistures even higher. Strong winds accompanied a cold front which pushed into the state midweek, bringing temperatures well below normal and causing widespread frost. After a brief break in the rains, more rain and some light snow fell over the weekend. Reporters across the state noted that fields were still too wet to access, keeping fieldwork to a minimum. Farmers were frustrated with the weather and with ongoing high grain moistures. Some reporters noted drops in crop condition due to grain sprouting, mold or disease.

**Topsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 0 percent short, 58 percent adequate and 42 percent surplus. **Subsoil moisture** supplies were rated 0 percent very short, 1 percent short, 62 percent adequate and 37 percent surplus.

Ninety-three percent of **corn** was mature, 19 days ahead of last year and 15 days ahead of the 5-year average. Corn harvested for grain was 19 percent complete, 11 days ahead of last year and 3 days ahead of the average. The moisture content of corn harvested for grain was reported at 24 percent. Corn for silage was 92 percent harvested, 10 days ahead of average. Corn condition was 69 percent good to excellent.

**Soybeans** dropping leaves was reported at 95 percent complete, 6 days ahead of last year and 4 days ahead of the average. Soybean harvest was 21 percent complete, 11 days behind last year and 8 days behind the average. Soybean condition was 70 percent good to excellent.

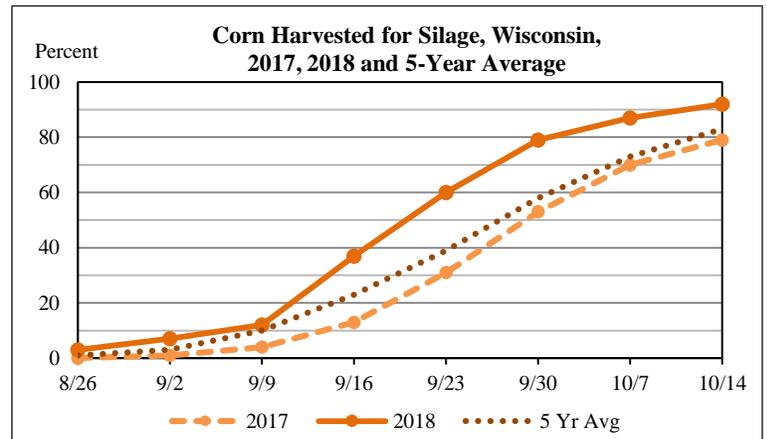
**Potato** harvest was reported as 84 percent complete, 8 days behind last year.

Sixty-three percent of **winter wheat** was planted, 6 days behind last year. Forty-five percent of the winter wheat crop has emerged, 2 days behind last year.

The fourth cutting of **alfalfa** was 90 percent complete, 18 days behind last year and 1 day behind the average

**Pasture** condition was rated 59 percent in good to excellent condition, compared with 61 percent in good to excellent condition last week.

**Fall tillage** was reported at 16 percent complete, 4 days behind last year and 7 days behind the average.



## Wisconsin Crop Conditions as of October 14, 2018

Item	Very Poor (percent)	Poor (percent)	Fair (percent)	Good (percent)	Excellent (percent)
Corn.....	4	9	18	42	27
Pasture & Range .	4	8	29	42	17
Soybeans.....	5	9	16	45	25

## Wisconsin Fieldwork and Crop Progress as of October 14, 2018

Item	District average									State average			
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last year	5-year average
Alfalfa Hay, Fourth Cutting	96	78	90	89	88	91	92	94	82	90	87	100	91
Corn Mature.....	88	94	92	92	87	88	94	99	94	93	84	68	77
Corn Harvested for Grain...	17	29	17	15	13	12	14	28	23	19	14	8	16
Corn Harvested for Silage..	94	92	93	95	89	88	92	96	95	92	87	79	83
Fall Tillage.....	19	15	15	11	19	22	20	9	12	16	14	19	22
Potatoes Harvested.....	84	67	89	82	84	n.a.	77	75	n.a.	84	73	92	n.a.
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	93	96	89	97	94	91	96	97	95	95	89	91	91
Soybeans Harvested.....	26	27	14	20	17	13	11	27	39	21	17	42	42
Winter Wheat Planted.....	81	76	82	64	72	70	63	45	44	63	54	75	n.a.
Winter Wheat Emerged.....	62	68	59	52	54	53	39	30	27	45	33	51	n.a.

n.a.=not available

## Days Suitable for Fieldwork and Soil Moisture Supplies as of October 14, 2018

Item	District average									State average		
	NW	NC	NE	WC	C	EC	SW	SC	SE	This week	Last week	Last Year
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	1.2	1.0	1.1	2.4	1.8	1.5	0.9	1.9	1.3	1.5	2.0	3.6
	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)	(percent)
Topsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Short.....	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Adequate.....	63	70	45	72	57	56	61	47	40	58	64	81
Surplus.....	37	30	55	28	43	44	39	53	60	42	36	9
Subsoil Moisture												
Very Short.....	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Short.....	0	0	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	11
Adequate.....	76	84	51	78	50	58	65	54	29	62	68	81
Surplus.....	24	16	43	20	50	42	35	46	71	37	31	6

# Wisconsin Crop Progress

## Selected Quotes from Farm Reporters and County Ag Agents

All comments are used in creating this report, but only a few are published below.

**CHIPPEWA-T.P.:** Frequent rains all week resulted in little fieldwork. All the moisture has some kernels on corn ears beginning to sprout. A hard frost over the weekend definitely put an end to the growing season. Concerns are growing that manure applications won't happen this fall if crops can't be harvested soon and soil conditions freeze up around Thanksgiving.

**RUSK-G.P.:** Widespread heavy rains limited field activity this week. Some corn came off at the end of the week, but mostly still too wet to get into the fields. Crop conditions are deteriorating with soybeans suffering the most. We really need some warmer temps, sunshine and some wind (just not too much!). Hay and pasture are in decline with colder temps.

**ASHLAND/IRON-C.B.:** Rain again most of the week throughout the area. Temperatures at least 10 degrees below normal. A couple of reports of soybeans harvested. Still too wet for any fall tillage work.

**SHAWANO-B.R.:** Over five inches of rain early in the week and light rain with some snow late in the week means almost no field work done this past week. It is very wet with water ponds in many fields. A lot of wheat was supposed to go in yet that will probably not get done anymore. Had some very strong winds last week that raised heck with some varieties of corn.

**LA CROSSE-I.H.:** Still extremely wet. Having difficulty getting into the fields.

**MONROE-B.H.:** Farmers are harvesting where they can, but many fields are too wet. Corn grain moisture is ranging from the low 20s to the low-mid 30s where they have been able to combine.

**MARQUETTE/WAUSHARA-D.B.:** Combines sitting for the most part. A few high fields can be harvested but another 3.5 inches of rain last week kept things slow.

**CALUMET-K.P.:** The week started with warmer weather and continued rain. Then came the cooler temperatures and winds, allowing the fields to dry enough to get a little field work done, only to be followed with a little more rain. The forecast is mostly dry. Producers are still hoping to get wheat planted.

**DOOR/KEWAUNEE-A.B.:** Wet. Nothing happening in the fields right now except a few people battling the mud to get silage off before it's too far gone. A few people are switching back over to harvesting 4th crop that got put off to get corn silage off when it was still dry enough to get in the fields. Manure lagoons are getting full, too. There's a lot of waiting and not much happening in the fields.

**VERNON-K.L.:** Another week of receiving 3-4 inches of rain in the county. First snowflakes of the year on October 11. Weather delaying the final harvesting of corn silage. Some cattle taken off of pasture this week.

**DANE-F.P.:** Corn moisture ranges from 15.0 to 18.0 percent. It froze Friday night to Saturday. Liquid manure is being applied on a lot of fields.

**DODGE-R.H.:** Received another 2.5 inches of rain this week.

**FOND DU LAC/WASHINGTON-B.B.:** No field work this period owing to more rain on top of rain. Two hard frosts have closed out the growing season that accumulated 2,790 Degree Days beginning March 1 and closing October 14 (using base 50/85). Corn and bean dry down has been at a standstill. Producers I've spoken with do not yet report mold issues and are measuring 22-24 percent moisture in corn and 17-19 percent in beans.

Wisconsin Weekly Weather, Selected Cities, Ending as of 7:00 a.m. on October 14, 2018

City	Temperature (degrees F)						Growing degree days (modified base 50) <sup>1</sup>		Precipitation (inches)				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal*	Mar. 1 to Oct. 13	Mar. 1 to Oct. 13 normal*	Last Week	Since Sep. 1	Sep. 1 dep. from normal*	Year to date	Year dep. from normal*
Eau Claire	51	38	57	27	44	-7	2862	2509	2.15	8.46	+3.71	35.29	+7.29
Green Bay	59	42	77	28	51	+0	2823	2371	2.99	9.18	+5.16	36.27	+12.09
La Crosse	57	43	74	30	50	-4	3407	2838	1.31	8.20	+3.84	37.34	+9.48
Madison	60	44	81	27	52	-1	3044	2793	1.76	12.79	+8.82	51.77	+24.09
Milwaukee	64	49	84	32	57	+2	3085	n.a.	0.65	11.90	+7.58	42.71	+14.24

<sup>1</sup> Formula used: GDD = (daily maximum (86°) + daily minimum (50°))/2-50°; where 86° is used if the maximum exceeds 86° and 50° is used if the minimum falls below 50°.

\*Normal based on 1971-2000 data. n.a.=not available. T=trace Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>.

For more weather data, please reference the following sites: <http://www.noaa.gov/> <http://www.aos.wisc.edu/~sco/> <http://www.cocorahs.org/> <http://www.weather.gov/>

This report has been made possible through the cooperative efforts of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection, and the National Weather Service.